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Message Text

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51
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 IO-14 AF-10 SSO-00 SY-10

OPR-02 A-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03 DRC-01 /150 W
---------- 126370
R 170743Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7914
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3781

FROM QUINLAN MUSCAT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR MU
SUBJECT: OMANI DEMARCHE ON US ARMS RESUPPLY

1. FONMIN CALLED ME IN SUDDENLY OCT 16, DAY AFTER EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION CALLED ON SULTAN QABOOS IN SALALAH, AND MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. OMAN UNDERSTANDS USG UNABLE DICTATE TO ISRAEL BUT BELIEVES CONTINUING SUPPLY ARMS MAKES CEASEFIRE MORE DIFFICULT ARRANGE.

B. ONLY TWO POWERS CAN STOP WAR - US AND RUSSIA - AND ARABS EXPECT USG FIND SOLUTION. IN DISCUSSION FIRST POINT, FONMIN VOLUNTEERED THAT SULTAN QABOOS WAS SO SYMPATHETIC WITH USG EFFORTS MODERATE ISRAELS ATTITUDE SHE HAD EVEN SPECULATED USG ENCOURAGED ARABS ATTACK IN ORDER FORCE ISRAELIS INTO BARGAINING POSITION: QABOOS NOW REALIZES WAR BOUND TO BE NET LOSS FOR BOTH SIDES BUT HOPES USG WILL SOMEHOW FIND OPPORTUNITY TURN DISASTER INTO OCCASION FOR NEGOTIATING PERMANENT SETTLEMENT.

2. I REPLIED I HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS BUT DID NOT EXPECT CHANGE
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IN USG POLICY AS LONG AS RUSSIANS CONTINUED SUPPLY ARABS.

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ALSO ASSURED MINISTER USG WOULD CONTINUE EFFORTS NOT ONLY
STOP FIGHTING BUT HELP FIND PERMANENT SOLUTION.

3. QUINLAN COMMENT: DISCUSSION BEGAN FORMALLY BUT
FONMIN QUICKLY SWITCHED TO FAMILIAR WARM, FRIENDLY ALMOST
APOLOGETIC TONE. I UTILIZED OCCASION REQUEST ADDITIONAL POLICE
PROTECTION, WHICH FONMIN PROMISED PROVIDE.
STOLTZFUS

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